

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Yakima River Basin Conservation Advisory Group

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1. Department or Agency		2. Fiscal Year	
Department of the Interior		2018	
3. Committee or Subcommittee		3b. GSA Committee No.	
Yakima River Basin Conservation Advisory Group		2043	
4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	03/15/2018	03/15/2020	
8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date	
No			
9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?	
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
11. Establishment Authority Authorized by Law			
12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
Title XII, Pub. L. 103-434	10/31/1994	Continuing	No
15. Description of Committee Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board			
16a. Total Number of Reports	No Reports for this Fiscal Year		
17a. Open 1	17b. Closed 0	17c. Partially Closed 0	Other Activities 0
17d. Total 1			

Purpose	Start	End
(CAG) Discussed, reviewed and received updates on: (1) Water Conservation Accomplishments year-to-date under the Title XII Act and the Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project (YRBWEP). (2) Budgetary expenditures year-to-date related to water conservation work under YRBWEP. (3) Introduction of two new Conservation Advisory Group members (4) The Integrated Plan (IP) and how Ecology and Reclamation Collaborate within the IP for continued water conservation work. (5) Presentation of possible YRBWEP projects to be funded for FY18.	10/19/2017	10/19/2017

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 1

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00

18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$450.00	\$450.00
18d. Total	\$6,450.00	\$6,450.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.10	0.10

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Yakima River Basin Conservation Advisory Group was chartered to provide technical advice and counsel to the Secretary of the Interior (through the Bureau of Reclamation) and the State of Washington on the structure, implementation, and oversight of the Yakima River Basin Water Conservation Project. The Basin Conservation Plan that was structured and guided by this group sets forth the mechanism for implementing water conservation measures in the Yakima River basin, including eligibility requirements for State and Federal sponsored grants, standards for the scope and content of water conservation plans, criteria for evaluating and prioritizing measures for implementation, institutional and economic incentives to increase conservation and to promote more efficient use of water, administrative procedures and allocation of funds, a post-implementation monitoring process, and oversight of the Basin Conservation Project. The Group has structured a water transfer process in the Yakima River basin and has structured a mitigation process for measures installed with the conservation funds. The Group provided advice and support for the technical changes to the legislation for clarification. The Group is providing oversight for minor changes in the recommendations they provided in the Basin Conservation Plan.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Membership of the Conservation Advisory Group is comprised of: a representative of the Yakima River basin non-proratable irrigators, a representative of the Yakima River basin proratable irrigators, a representative of the Yakama Nation, a representative of environmental interests, a representative of the Cooperative Extension, Washington State University, and a representative of the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. Members are nominated from the constituency of the representative groups identified in the legislation.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Conservation Advisory Group meets annually, and at other such times as the Designated Federal Officer deems necessary. During the off months, members of the Conservation Advisory Group continue to work on conservation efforts throughout the Yakima basin. Ongoing water conservation grants and contract efforts, including proposed grantees, are reported to the members and discussed during the annual meeting.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The committee's oversight role will require them for the full-term of their charter. This committee structured and guided the Basin Conservation Plan for the Yakima River Basin. The committee's advice is useful as the plan is being implemented and adaptive revisions are needed. The Conservation Advisory Group's guidance is needed on a pending issues.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

N/A

21. Remarks

The Advisory Group met during FY 2018.

Designated Federal Officer

Gwendolyn W Christensen Designated Federal Officer

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Dieker, Richard	08/01/2016	08/01/2019	Represents Non-proratable Irrigators	Representative Member
Pelly, Elizabeth	05/19/2012	07/23/2018	Environmental Representative	Representative Member
Peters, R. Troy	08/06/2010	08/01/2019	Cooperative Extension, Washington State University	Representative Member
Renfrow, Brent	10/30/1995	08/01/2019	Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife	Representative Member
Revell, Scott	08/01/2016	08/01/2019	Represents Proratable Irrigators	Representative Member
Rigdon, Philip	08/22/2006	07/23/2018	Yakama Nation	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 6

Narrative Description

The Yakima River Basin Conservation Advisory Group provides technical advice and counsel to the Secretary of the Interior (through the Bureau of Reclamation) and the State of Washington on the structure, implementation, and oversight of the Yakima River Basin Water Conservation Project.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

N/A

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None



Unable to Determine



Under \$100,000



\$100,000 - \$500,000



\$500,001 - \$1,000,000



\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000



\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000



Over \$10,000,000



Cost Savings Other

**Cost Savings Comments**

N/A

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

15

Number of Recommendations Comments

No formal recommendations were made for FY18. Recommendations address the measuring, monitoring, reporting and enforcement of water diversions in the Yakima River Basin. The obstacles in the Federal Acquisition Regulations for acquiring habitat lands and water, and the use of project funds to repair or remove fish ladders installed during Phase I of the legislation.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

80%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Recommendations are implemented continuously over a long period of time.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Some recommendations require State or Federal Legislation to be fully implemented

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

As staff reports at the Conservation Advisory Group meetings.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Provides advice and oversight on the implementation of the Title XII Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project, Pub. L 103-434, October 31, 1994.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

N/A

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other



Access Comments

N/A